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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U. S. Department of Agriculture
and State Agricultural Colleges
Cooperating.



States Relations Service, Office
of Extension Work North and West,
Washington, D. C.

This Looks Good

SPARROWS, GRASSHOPPERS, AND ALFALFA WEEVIL GET A GOOD DRUBBING IN UTAH.

The Utah agents are continuing their war on the English sparrow which gave such good success during the two previous years. The sparrow population by the counties participating in the campaign this year has been reduced by actual count 436,165, while the estimated saving from sparrow control during this season alone has amounted to \$112,944. Ten thousand and fifty-one pounds of poisoned wheat were used in the campaign.

The grasshopper control work has given equally good results. The bran-mash-arsenic bait was used except in one county where sawdust was substituted for bran and fruit omitted from the formula without noticeable results. In Piute County balloons were used to catch 1,050 bushels of grasshoppers. A total of 36,958 acres were involved in the campaign, the estimated saving amounting to \$251,145.

The alfalfa weevil has entailed untold loss to the alfalfa farmers in the Utah-Idaho district. While the control methods of this weevil are still in the experimental stage, Mr. Owens, the county agent leader says in his annual report that the spray developed by the Office of Cereal Investigations of the United States Department of Agriculture, which is made of 2 to 2½ pounds of lead arsenate or calcium arsenate per 100 gallons of water, and applied in a fine mist with a power sprayer at the rate of 80 to 100 gallons per acre, has increased the production of the sprayed over the unsprayed fields by an average of one-half ton per acre. He also says: "The weevil parasite introduced by representatives of the United States Department of Agriculture from Italy has undoubtedly lessened the ravages of the weevil. County agents have reported that 75 per cent to 90 per cent of the weevil cocoons examined are parasitized." He summarizes the demonstration work in alfalfa weevil control as follows:

"Farms involved in demonstration	-	-	351
Acres involved	-	-	10,113
Pounds of poison used	-	-	13,986
Saving effected from alfalfa control	-	-	\$96,967."

The above results of work are visible and specific and tend to establish the value of county agent work concretely in the minds of farmers.

County Agent Section
12-28-'20
No. 22-L

W. C. Owens

